

2004 NHIS Linked Mortality Files
Notices for Data Users

February 2005

I. Data file release

The 2004 NHIS Linked Mortality files represent the *third* linkage of NHIS records to the NDI and supersede the previous NHIS-NDI linkages issued in 1997 and 2000. Due to differences in data editing and NDI matching procedures, there are inconsistencies between the 2004 NHIS Linked Mortality files and prior data file releases. No attempt was made to resolve any of these inconsistencies. NCHS recommends that analysts use the new 2004 NHIS Linked Mortality files.

II. 1992 NHIS Hispanic oversample

For the 1992 NHIS, the Hispanic population was oversampled. The supplemental sample for the 1992 NHIS consists of Hispanic households from the 1991 NHIS, where one or more Hispanic persons 17 years or older were found, that were recontacted in 1992. Hispanic persons from these recontacted households can be identified in the 1992 NHIS and the 1992 NHIS Linked Mortality file by the code for the processing year variable (the code is “91” for the supplemental Hispanic respondents and “92” for all other respondents). Analysts must keep this Hispanic oversample in mind if they wish to combine the 1991 and 1992 data sets. The [Research Data Center \(RDC\)](#) where the 2004 NHIS Linked Mortality files are available, includes two mortality linkages for the 1992 NHIS - one containing the Hispanic oversample and one with the reduced sample, which does not include the Hispanic oversample. Analysts wanting to use the 1992 NHIS Linked Mortality file must instruct the RDC as to which file they want to use.